



PATENT

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10/28/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Zhu, et al.) Group Art Unit: 1743
Appl. No. : 09/810,872)
Filed : March 16, 2001)
For : **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR**)
RAPIDLY ASSAYING ALDEHYDE-)
CONTAINING DISINFECTANT)
Examiner : Unknown)

RECEIVED

OCT 25 2002

TC 1700

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned U.S. application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 8, 9, and 24, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 15, 17-19, 25, and 26 as follows. All claims are shown for convenience.

I. (Amended) A method of determining the presence of a point of interest of an aldehyde in a test sample comprising the steps of:

reacting the aldehyde in the test sample with an amount of a compound that reacts with a carbonyl group of the aldehyde in a first reacting step, wherein said amount is sufficient to react with the aldehyde to the point of interest to produce a first color;

reacting a compound having an amino group with any remaining aldehyde in the test sample in a second reacting step, the compound being one that reacts with the aldehyde to produce a second color; and

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